

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:****Pages S7196–97****Privileges of the Floor:****Page S7197**

**Recess:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 8:05 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7199.)

## *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### **DEFENSE CONTRACTING IN IRAQ**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the adequacy of defense contracting oversight for Operation Iraqi Freedom, after receiving testimony from Gordon England, Deputy Secretary, Gordon S. Heddell, Acting Inspector General, and General Benjamin S. Griffin, Commanding Officer, United States Army Materiel Command, all of the Department of Defense.

### **REDUCING GASOLINE DEMAND**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the status of existing federal programs targeted at reducing gasoline demand, focusing on additional proposals for near-term gasoline demand reductions, after receiving testimony from Steven G. Chalk, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and David L. Greene, Corporate Fellow, Transportation Science and Energy Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, both of the Department of Energy; John A. Laitner, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), Washington, D.C.; Steve Winkelman, Center for Clean Air Policy, Port Chester, New York; and Edward R. Buiel, Axion Power International, Inc., New Castle, Pennsylvania.

### **MIDWEST FLOODS**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the recent floods in the Midwestern United States, focusing on ways to determine what happened and how to improve managing risk and responses in the future, after receiving testimony from Senators Grassley, Durbin, and McCaskill; and John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Civil Works, and Brigadier General Michael J. Walsh, Division Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, both of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S.J. Res. 41, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

### **NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James Christopher Swan, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Djibouti, Alan W. Eastham, Jr., of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, W. Stuart Symington, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda, who was introduced by Senators Klobuchar and McCaskill, and John A. Simon, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### **NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Tatiana C. Gfoeller-Volkoff, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, Richard G. Olson, Jr., of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, David D. Pearce, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, and Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### **UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Democracy and Human Rights concluded a hearing to examine United Nations peacekeeping operations, focusing on opportunities and challenges for the administration of the next president of the United States, after receiving testimony from Brian Hook, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs; Brett D. Schaefer, Heritage Foundation Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom, and William J. Durch, Henry L. Stimson Center, both of Washington, D.C.; and Nancy Soderberg, University of North Florida, Jacksonville.

### **INFORMATION SHARING**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine information sharing, including the actions that have been taken to guide the design and implementation of the Information Sharing Environment (ISE), and

to report its progress, the characteristics of state and local fusion centers and the extent to which federal efforts are helping to address some of the challenges centers reported, and the progress made in developing streamlined policies and procedures for designating, marking, safeguarding, and disseminating sensitive but unclassified information, after receiving testimony from Eileen R. Larence, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Charles E. Allen, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis, and Chief Intelligence Officer; James M. Thomas, Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Hartford; and Thomas E. McNamara, Information Sharing Environment, and Jeffrey H. Smith, Arnold and Porter LLP, both of Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Carol A. Dalton, Anthony C. Epstein, and Heidi M. Pasichow, all of the District of Columbia, all to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, who were introduced by Representative Norton, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### CHILDHOOD OBESITY

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Subcommittee on Children and Families concluded hearings to examine childhood obesity, focusing on the declining health of America's next generation (Part II), after receiving testimony from Joseph W. Thompson, Arkansas Surgeon General, Little Rock, on behalf of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center to Prevent Childhood Obesity; Philip J. Dwyer, Central Connecticut Coast YMCA, New Haven; Susan K. Neely, American Beverage Association, Washington, D.C.; and Jonathan Miller, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

### SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impact of Supreme Court decisions, focusing on recent decisions on corporate misconduct and laws regulating corporations, after receiving testimony from Elizabeth Bartholet, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Patricia Ann Millett, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld, LLP, Washington, D.C.; and Osa Marie Schultz, Cordova, Alaska.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of J. Patrick Rowan, of Maryland, and Jeffrey Leigh Sedgwick, of Massachusetts, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, and William B. Carr, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES VA OUTREACH

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on responding to the needs of returning United States National Guard and Reserve members, after receiving testimony from Donald Nelson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs; Bradley G. Mayes, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, and Major General Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, (Ret.) Army National Guard, Coordinator of National Guard, Reserve and Families, VHA OEF/OIF Outreach Office, Veterans Health Administration, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Joseph R. Scotti, West Virginia University, Morgantown; Colonel Bradley A. Livingston, Montana National Guard, Fort Harrison; Lieutenant Colonel John Boyd, Vermont Army National Guard, Colchester; Sergeant Roy Meredith, Maryland Army National Guard, Annapolis; and Major Cynthia M. Rasmussen, Combat Stress Officer, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, 88th Regional Readiness Command, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

### NURSING HOME CARE

*Special Committee on Aging:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine person-centered health care at nursing homes, focusing on reforming services and improving the quality of care, after receiving testimony from Bill Thomas, University of Maryland Baltimore Erickson School, Ithaca, New York; Robert Jenkins, GREEN HOUSE Project, Arlington, Virginia; Melinda Abrams, Commonwealth Fund, New York, New York; Eric A. Coleman, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center; Edna Hess, Lebanon Valley Brethren Home, Palmyra, Pennsylvania; Diana White, Portland State University Institute on Aging, Portland, Oregon; and Zoe Valentine Holland, Lincoln, Nebraska.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 19 public bills, H.R. 6544–6592; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 395; and H. Res. 1366, 1369–1372 were introduced. **Pages H7057–58**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H7058–59**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1367, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 110–768) and

H. Res. 1368, relating to the House procedures contained in section 803 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (H. Rept. 110–769). **Pages H7012–13, H7057**

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. James Rousakis, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Clearwater, Florida. **Page H6827**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003:* H. J. Res. 93, amended, to approve the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003; **Pages H6831–33**

*Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance:* H.R. 6532, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 387 yeas to 37 nays, Roll No. 518; **Pages H6833–38, H6854**

*Honoring and commemorating the selfless acts of heroism displayed by the late Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police on July 24, 1998:* H. Res. 1360, to honor and commemorate the selfless acts of heroism displayed by the late Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police on July 24, 1998; **Pages H6838–39**

*Expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the House of Representatives to the professionalism and dedication of the United States Capitol Police:* H. Res. 645, amended, to express the gratitude and appreciation of the House of Representatives to the professionalism and dedication of the United States Capitol Police; **Pages H6839–40**

*Recognizing and celebrating the 20th anniversary of the National Black Arts Festival:* H. Res. 1286, to recognize and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the National Black Arts Festival; **Pages H7037–38**

*Expressing support for designation of Disability Pride Day and recognizing that all people, includ-*

*ing those living with disabilities, have the right, responsibility, and ability to be active, contributing members of our society and fully engaged as citizens:* H. Res. 1355, to express support for designation of Disability Pride Day and to recognize that all people, including those living with disabilities, have the right, responsibility, and ability to be active, contributing members of our society and fully engaged as citizens; and **Pages H7038–39**

*Honoring the life and accomplishments of Katherine Dunham:* H. Res. 655, amended, to honor the life and accomplishments of Katherine Dunham. **Pages H7039–41**

**Authorizing the printing of an additional number of copies of the 23rd edition of the pocket version of the United States Constitution:** The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 395, authorizing the printing of an additional number of copies of the 23rd edition of the pocket version of the United States Constitution. **Page H6840**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Rejected the Sessions motion to adjourn by a yeas-and-nays vote of 20 yeas to 400 nays, Roll No. 515. **Page H6852**

**Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008:** The House agreed to the Senate amendment to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3221, to provide needed housing reform, with the amendment printed in H. Rept. 110–767, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 272 yeas to 152 nays, Roll No. 519. **Pages H6854–H7011**

H. Res. 1363, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 223 yeas to 201 noes, Roll No. 517, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 226 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 516. **Pages H6840–52, H6852–54**

Pursuant to section 2 of H. Res. 1363, the House has receded from any remaining amendments or disagreements on H.R. 3221. **Page H7011**

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, July 22nd:

*National Energy Security Intelligence Act of 2008:* H.R. 6545, to require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a national intelligence assessment on national security and energy security issues, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 414 yeas with none voting “nay” and 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 520. **Pages H7011–12**

The House further agreed to the Hastings (FL) motion to table the Price (GA) motion to reconsider the vote, by a recorded vote of 242 yeas to 179 noes, Roll No. 521. **Page H7012**